

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

YUSILL SCRIBNER REBEKAH CARMICHAEL

JANICE OH

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(212) 637-2600

FBI

JIM MARGOLIN MONICA McLEAN

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(212) 384-2720, 2715

NYPD

PAUL BROWNE (646)610-8989

SIX ARRESTS MADE ON INDICTMENT CHARGING GENOVESE CRIME FAMILY ASSOCIATES AND OTHERS

LEV L. DASSIN, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, JOSEPH M. DEMAREST, JR., Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and RAYMOND W. KELLY, Police Commissioner of the City of New York ("NYPD"), announced the arrest of six defendants yesterday on charges of racketeering, loansharking, interstate transportation of stolen property, and illegal gambling. As alleged in the superseding Indictment in which the defendants are charged, unsealed today in Manhattan federal court:

THOMAS TASSIELLO, a/k/a "Tommy," and ARTHUR TASSIELLO were associates of the Genovese Organized Crime Family, and members of the crew headed by CHARLES DELMONICO (who died in December 2008). Among other things, THOMAS TASSIELLO and ARTHUR TASSIELLO used their status as associates of the Genovese Crime Family to take an ownership interest in a Manhattan bar after its owner could not keep up with weekly interest payments on a series of loans totaling approximately \$100,000. THOMAS TASSIELLO also used his association with the Genovese Organized Crime Family to extend extortionate loans to various Manhattan-based small business owners, and collected on those loans with the assistance of JOSEPH BELINSKY, a/k/a "Joe Belin," and JAMES PATRICK RYAN, a/k/a "Jimmy." THOMAS TASSIELLO used threats of violence and

other harm in collecting on the loans. PATRICK O'SULLIVAN participated in a conspiracy to extend a series of loans totaling approximately \$32,000 to an attorney in Miami, Florida. THOMAS TASSIELLO and JAMES PATRICK RYAN, a/k/a "Jimmy," are also charged with transporting across state lines eighteen cases of premium vodka that they understood to be stolen. THOMAS TASSIELLO, WILLIAM DONOVAN, JOHN STAVERN, a/k/a "Johnny Numbers," and JOSEPH CATTANEO are additionally charged with operating an illegal gambling business that engaged in sports bookmaking and illegal lottery schemes.

All of the defendants except THOMAS TASSIELLO, who had previously been arrested on the charges in the initial Indictment (which charged only him), and WILLIAM DONOVAN, who remains at large, were arrested yesterday. The arrests were effected by members of the Joint Organized Crime Task Force, which includes agents of the FBI and detectives of the NYPD.

The following table summarizes the charges in the Superseding Indictment:

Count	Charge	Defendant	Maximum Sentence of Imprisonment
1	Racketeering	THOMAS TASSIELLO	20 yrs.
2	Racketeering	THOMAS TASSIELLO ARTHUR TASSIELLO	20 yrs.
3	Conspiracy to Make Extortionate Extensions of Credit (Victim-1)	THOMAS TASSIELLO ARTHUR TASSIELLO	20 yrs.
4	Conspiracy to Use Extortionate Means to Collect Extensions of Credit (Victim-1)	THOMAS TASSIELLO ARTHUR TASSIELLO	20 yrs.
5	Conspiracy to Make Extortionate Extensions of Credit (Victim-2, Victim-3)	THOMAS TASSIELLO	20 yrs.

6	Conspiracy to Use Extortionate Means to Collect Extensions of Credit (Victim-2, Victim-3)	THOMAS TASSIELLO JAMES PATRICK RYAN JOSEPH BELINSKY	20 yrs.
7	Conspiracy to Make Extortionate Extensions of Credit (Victim-4, Victim-5)	THOMAS TASSIELLO	20 yrs.
8	Conspiracy to Use Extortionate Means to Collect Extensions of Credit (Victim-4, Victim-5)	THOMAS TASSIELLO	20 yrs.
9	Conspiracy to Make Extortionate Extensions of Credit (Victim-6)	PATRICK O'SULLIVAN	20 yrs.
10	Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property	THOMAS TASSIELLO JAMES PATRICK RYAN	10 yrs.
11	Operation of an Illegal Gambling Business	THOMAS TASSIELLO WILLIAM DONOVAN JOHN STAVERN JOSEPH CATTANEO	5 yrs.

Defendants that were arrested yesterday will be presented and arraigned this afternoon in Manhattan federal court before a Magistrate Judge.

THOMAS TASSIELLO, 61, resides in Manhattan, New York.

ARTHUR TASSIELLO, 65, resides in Queens, New York.

PATRICK O'SULLIVAN, 63, resides in Garrison, New York.

JOSEPH BELINSKY, 75, resides in Bronx, New York.

JAMES PATRICK RYAN, 61, resides in Manhattan, New York.

JOHN STAVERN, 62, resides in Valley Stream, New York.

JOSEPH CATTANEO, 60, resides in Manhasset, New York.

Mr. DASSIN praised the work of the Joint Organized Crime Task Force -- including agents of the FBI and detectives of the NYPD -- in the investigation of this case, and added that the investigation is continuing.

Assistant United States Attorneys AVI WEITZMAN, STEVE KWOK, and ARIANNA BERG are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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